



Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Fact Sheet Academic Year 2007-08



Helping Students Pay for College

Description

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship is a federally funded program administered by the State of Michigan, Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG). It was established to promote student excellence and achievement and to recognize exceptional students who show promise of continued excellence. This merit-based program provides approximately 175 awards per year for up to four years to graduating high school students who have achieved academic excellence. The financial resources of the family are not a criterion for determining eligibility. Federal law requires that awards be geographically distributed.

Application

Each spring, high school principals nominate one outstanding graduating senior, based upon high school academic achievement and college aptitude test scores. The principal will use a mathematical formula to combine the grade point average and SAT or ACT scores.

Each student is then notified by OSG of their eligibility. Eligible students must return a certification form indicating where they will attend college. Failure to return the certification form or failure to enroll at an eligible institution during the 2007-08 academic year will result in forfeiture of the award (see program limits).

Program Limits

The current maximum award is \$1,500. The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship and all other federal financial aid for which the scholar qualifies cannot exceed the cost of attendance. The award is for the first year of study at any college or university in the United States and is renewable for up to three additional years of undergraduate study. The student is expected to use their award within four consecutive years. OSG may suspend the scholarship if the student does not meet the renewal criteria. The scholarship may be reinstated if the student meets the renewal criteria within twelve months of suspension. OSG may also allow a postponement or interruption of enrollment based on a student appeal.* Future awards are subject to available and approved funding.

Eligibility

- Enroll full time* at an eligible Michigan postsecondary or out-of-state institution that participates in Federal Title IV student aid programs.
- Possess a high school diploma or GED certificate.
- Be a legal Michigan resident.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Meet institution's satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy.
- Be registered with the Selective Service, if applicable.

Home-schooled students and students entering U.S. Military Academies are not eligible for consideration.

For More Information

Visit www.michigan.gov/studentaid. Contact the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program, Office of Scholarships and Grants, at the toll-free number 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687) or e-mail osg@michigan.gov.

*Students may appeal based on the following: You have medical problems that prevent you from being able to attend college, you are caring for your parent(s) due to illness that prevents you from being able to attend college, you need to be employed full time to provide an income to meet education costs, or your program of study requires co-op employment; and during that employment period, your course load cannot be full time. Appeal letter must include documentation and should be mailed to: Office of Scholarships and Grants, P.O. Box 30462, Lansing, MI 48909